

Michigan Supreme Court State Court Administrative Office

Michigan Hall of Justice P.O. Box 30048 Lansing, MI 48909

Phone: (517) 373-0130 John D. Ferry, Jr., State Court Administrator

DATE: April 16, 2004

TO: All Judges and Staffs

FROM: John D. Ferry, Jr.

RE: Election Campaign Reminder

As judicial elections approach, judges and court staffs are reminded that:

- Requiring court employees to volunteer for political activities in support of a judicial candidate is forbidden. Requesting employees to do so is inappropriate and unfair to the employee.
- Court employees may offer their personal services to members of the judiciary to assist in campaigning for their reelection only during non-work hours.
- Employees have the right to participate in political activities on their own time and as volunteers, unless local personnel policies direct otherwise.
- Judges should not permit court employees to engage in political activities in violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct.